

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
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AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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USCINCEUR FOR POLAD MULLER

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: MARR, MO, CG  
SUBJECT: VISIT OF PRESIDENT MOBUTU TO MOROCCO, JUNE 14-17

1. SUMMARY: ZAIRIAN PRESIDENT MOBUTU SESE SEKO VISITED MOROCCO  
JUNE 14-17 TO THANK HIS MAJOR ALLY IN SHABA WAR. HE HELD  
EXTENSIVE TALKS WITH KING HASSAN II, CAPPING HIS STAY BY ATTEND-  
ING VICTORY PARADE WITH KING IN CASABLANCA. THE VISIT HIGHLIGHTED  
MOROCCO'S NEW ANTI-RADICAL ACTIVISM IN AFRICA. END SUMMARY

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2. IN KEEPING WITH HIGH VISIBILITY THROUGHOUT, MOBUTU WAS  
GREETED ON ARRIVAL JUNE 14 IN RABAT BY KING AND COUNTRY'S  
CIVILIAN AND MILITARY LEADERSHIP. SEMI-OFFICIAL LE MATIN SUMMED  
UP PURPOSE OF VISIT AS DEMONSTRATION OF THE NEW MOROCCAN/ZAIRIAN  
FRIENDSHIP AND EXPRESSION OF ZAIRE'S THANKS TO MOROCCO FOR AID  
RENDERED IN SHABA WAR.

3. ACCOMPANYING MOBUTU WERE MAMA MOBUTU, FOREIGN MINISTER NGUZA KARL-I-BOND, AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF COLONEL KIKUNDA, CHIEF OF PRESIDENTIAL PROTOCOL BOKATA WIKITO, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE BOKAMA W'ONDANGELO AND PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL COUNSELOR SETI YALA.

4. THE TWO CHIEFS OF STATE HELD FORMAL MEETINGS ON JUNE 14 AND 15, INCLUDING A SESSION ATTENDED BY RANKING OFFICERS OF BOTH MILITARY ESTABLISHMENTS. TO JUDGE FROM PRESS COVERAGE, CONVERSATIONS FOCUSSED ON ZAIRIAN PLANS FOR ECONOMIC, ADMINISTRATIVE AND MILITARY REFORM; MOROCCAN-ZAIRIAN COOPERATION IN AVIATION, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND CULTURE; THE UPCOMING OAU SUMMIT; AND ZAIRE'S CONTINUING PROBLEMS WITH ANGOLA. FOREIGN MINISTERS LARAKI AND NGUZA ALSO MET JUNE 15. NGUZA INDICATED SUBSEQUENTLY THAT THE MOROCCAN-ZAIRIAN MIXED COMMISSION WOULD BE ACTIVATED AND AN EXCHANGE OF FOREIGN MINISTER-LEVEL VISITS INITIATED TO WORK OUT DETAILS OF FUTURE COOPERATION.

5. MOBUTU'S MAIN SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS DURING VISIT WERE CONTAINED IN AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN LE MATIN JUNE 16. HE TOUCHED ON FOLLOWING:

A. OAU: OAU WAS BECOMING "A MATTER OF BLOCS AND AN OPEN FORUM FOR IDEOLOGICAL CONFRONTATION". OAU SOMETIMES "FORGETS TO SEEK SOLUTIONS TO THE REAL PROBLEMS OF THE CONTINENT." TO SAVE THE OAU, ITS MEMBERS MUST RESPECT ITS CHARTER, MAINTAIN A DIALOGUE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND RESPECT THE REALITIES OF EACH MEMBER STATE.

B. ANGOLA: PESSIMISTIC ON RELATIONS WITH ANGOLA, MOBUTU DECLARED THAT ALL ATTEMPTS AT NORMALIZING TIES "GO BY WAY OF MOSCOW AND HAVANA IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY IDEOLOGICAL COLORATION." WHEN ANGOLA WAS FREE, ITS PEOPLE WOULD KNOW WHERE THE INTERESTS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES TRULY LAY.

C. MOROCCO: MOROCCO WAS A "SAFE AND CERTAIN PARTNER." JUST AS THE TWO COUNTRIES HAD SUCCEEDED IN THE FIELD OF MILITARY COOPERATION, IT WOULD BE "EQUALLY POSSIBLE TO DO SO IN THE POLITICAL, DIPLOMATIC, COMMERCIAL AND CULTURAL FIELDS."

D. INTERNAL REFORM: MOBUTU MADE NO BONES OF THE SEVERE SETBACKS SUFFERED BY THE ZAIRIAN ARMY AT OUTSET OF SHABA WAR. REORGANIZATION OF THE MILITARY AND ALL OTHER SECTORS WOULD NOW BE HIS PRIMARY AIM AND FOCUS. MANY OF ZAIRE'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS STEMMED FROM THE VRISIS WHICH HAD ENGULFED THE COUNTRY. THE IMF HAD APPROVED HIS STABILIZATION PROGRAM OF MARCH AND IT WAS NOW IN FORCE. ZAIRE'S EXTREMELY LIBERAL INVESTMENT CODE WOULD PROTECT NEW INVESTMENTS.

6. MOROCCAN SEMI-OFFICIAL PRESS DEVOTED MANY PAGES OF ENCOMIUMS TO PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S SAGACITY, THE UNDERLYING FRIENDSHIP OF MOROCCO FOR ZAIRE, AND ZAIRE'S ECONOMY, HISTORY AND TOURIST POTENTIAL. MAROC SOIR EDITORIALIZED JUNE 16 THAT THE BASIC BACKDROP TO THE MOBUTU VISIT WAS MOROCCO'S DETERMINATION TO DEFEAT AGGRESSION, SUBVERSION AND MERCENARIES IN AFRICA. KING HASSAN II HAD DONE HIS SACRED DUTY AS AN AFRICAN AND HAD FACED UP TO AN EXTERNAL CHALLENGE BY AROUSING THE CONTINENT FROM ITS PASSIVITY AND RESIGNATION. HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR MOROCCO, ALL AFRICA WOULD HAVE BEEN DELIVERED UP TO ADVENTURERS, GANGSTER CHIEFS, AND FILIBUSTERS, AS DURING THE ADVENT OF THE COLONIAL ERA. ZAIRIAN-MOROCCAN RELATIONS MARKED THE BIRTH OF A NEW ACTIVIST AFRICA.

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7. AT DINNER FOR MOBUTU JUNE 16 IN CASABLANCA, KING REITERATED RATIONALE FOR MOROCCO'S ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE, DEVELOPING THEME THAT WHILE INVADERS MIGHT HAVE BEEN KATANGANS, WHAT WAS CRUCIAL WAS PLACE FROM WHICH THEY HAD OPERATED. IF AN OPERATION TOOK PLACE FROM A FOREIGN TERRITORY, IT WAS A CASE OF DELIBERATE AGGRESSION, JUSTIFYING THE MOROCCAN RESPONSE. (COMMENT: THE PARALLEL WITH POLISARIO OPERATIONS MOUNTED FROM ALGERIAN TERRITORY WAS CLEAR BUT UNSTATED).

8. A HIGH POINT OF THE VISIT WAS VICTORY PARADE IN CASABLANCA JUNE 17, AT WHICH MOBUTU AND HASSAN REVIEWED ZAIRIAN UNITS AND MOROCCAN TROOPS RETURNED FROM SHABA. DECORATIONS WERE AWARDED, INCLUDING POSTHUMOUSLY TO SEVEN MOROCCAN "MARTYRS" OF THE WAR. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING PARADE, MOBUTU DEPARTED FOR DAKAR, ABIDJAN AND LOME.

9. COMMENT: THE EXTREMELY WARM MOROCCAN RECEPTION FOR MOBUTU, COUPLED WITH THE LATTER'S PROFUSE THANKS TO THE KING FOR CRITICAL MILITARY AID, SERVED AS A GRAPHIC PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION OF MOROCCO'S STRENGTHENING TIES WITH THE AFRICAN MODERATES AND ITS NEW ACTIVISM AGAINST RADICAL INROADS IN AFRICA.  
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